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A JOYFUL CHRISTMAS.

You will be relieved of the task of purchasing costly gifts if you send Christmas cards to your friends at Christmas time. We have a beautiful line. Call and see them. The Dispatch.

At this season of the year the vitality is the lowest. Help nature to function thoroughly by drinking Shivar Springs water. Others are being benefited, why not you? Phone J. L. Walker & Company, and a bottle will be delivered at your door.

Get your Christmas cards here.

Curious Old English Customs.

A curious custom, the Hocktide festival of Kissing day, is observed in Hungerford, England. With the exception of three years, it has been observed every year since the days of John of Gaunt. With a trumpet 300 years old, the trumpeter opens the day, blowing it on the balcony of the courthouse. The town crier, in red-faced suit rings his bell and calls all commoners to court. The turtlemen, two villagers, start on their round, carrying poles to which are affixed large bouquets. They enter each shop and house to collect a one-penny fine and falling in this exact a kiss from the wife and daughters of each commoner. Signs of struggle are frequent, but each time a kiss is obtained. An orange is thrown by a follower to the big crowd of children that trails along and the oranges disappear rapidly.

Toothache Remedies.

A good remedy for toothache in Devonshire, England, is to bite a tooth from a skull in the churchyard and keep it in the pocket always. In America, if you rub your finger nails regularly on a Friday morning you will never have the toothache. In Ireland, Christian pilgrims who visit the holy well of Tubber Quinn on the last three Sundays in June, to worship St. Quinn, are required to give an offering of half a shilling against all possible dangers of toothache in the future. To get the best results it is necessary to go three times around a neighboring tree on the bare knees and then cut off a lock of hair and tie it to a branch of the tree. This tree, fringed with human hair, is a sight, but nevertheless, is an object of deep veneration.

Thunderstorm.

Heaven opened then, indeed. The flash was almost too novel for its inexpressible dangerous nature to be at once realized, and Gabriel could only comprehend the magnificence of its beauty. It sprang from east, west, north, south. It was a perfect dance of death. The forms of skeletons appeared in the air, shaped with blue fire for bones—dancing, laughing, scolding, racing around, and mingling altogether in unparaphrased confusion. With these were intertwined undulating snakes of green. Behind these was a broad mass of lesser light. Simultaneously came from every part of the tumbling sky what may be called a shout; since, though no shout ever came near it, it was more of the nature of a shout than of anything else earthly.—Arnold.

Ancient Engineering Feat.

The Chengtu irrigation system is one of the most noteworthy examples of an early engineering feat and deserves to rank with the Pyramids. The headwaters of the system are in the foothills of the Tibetan mountains at the city of Kwan Hsien, where the Ku Kiang breaks through the northern part of the plain and makes its mad rush toward the sea. The river bed falls in level 1,200 feet during its 70-mile trip along the edge of the plain. Some idea of the magnitude of the engineering task may be realized from the fact that the flow during a freshet is not far from 30,000,000 cubic feet of water a minute, approximately the flow of the Niagara river.—Asia Magazine.

Edmond Dantes' Prison.

Before the great world war the last prisoners condemned to the Chateau d'If, made famous by Dumas' novel, "The Count of Monte Cristo," were a number of Arabs seized during the Algerian revolt of 1871 and taken out in 1872 to be sent to French Guiana. Today the island's only interest is historical. When the tourists come to Marseilles guides show them in the old dungeons the tunnels which the Abbe Farla dug into the cell of Edmond Dantes. They even point out the spot where Dantes, seven up in the abbey's shroud, was hauled into the sea, and so effected his escape.

ESSEX

Dominates the field of stock cars in the State Fair Speedway Races.

Ask those who have drunk Shivar water what it has done for them you will order it from us. J. L. Walker & Co.

HYPNOTISM CURES RELIGIOUS MANIA

Hysterical Young Woman Saved From Insane Asylum by Psycho Experiment.

IS TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER

Young Artist Who Offers Self for Experiment Is Later Relieved of Transferred Malady by Means of Hypnotism.

Paris.—A strange cure, of a psychic nature, has just been achieved before a number of doctors and a few experimenters along the lines of psychiatry.

The patient was a young woman of hysterical tendency, who for seven years had been possessed with an anti-religious mania. During this time the sight of a priest, the act of passing near a church, the pronouncement of a religious formula all have brought on either attacks of violence or spells of dumbness. The association of ideas which precipitate these crises were of the most fantastic kind—a piece of white paper suggested the host, a romaine salad turned her mind toward the Roman church, a glass of charcuterie the brotherhood of Carthusian monks. At these suggestions she would tremble and faint. To nourish a patient under these conditions daily became more and more of a problem.

Takes Extreme Measures.

In Paris last autumn the doctors whom her husband consulted advised him to incarcerate her. Deciding to try everything else before resorting to this extreme measure, her husband, on the advice of an eminent chemist, finally put her under the treatment of a well-known specialist in psychotherapy, M. Mangin. Six months of treatment, consisting in psychic re-education, either in a state of waking or by superfluous hypnosis, gave only results of short duration. The Easter festivities exasperated the patient to the point of frenzy. This decided Mr. Mangin to take to extreme measures. He began a tireless search for a subject suitable for the experiment of a transference of the malady, with all its anguish and strange manifestations. This was a difficult task, for the subject must be of such a delicate and perfect suggestibility as to be able later to be freed in turn from these same miseries.

Mme. Georgette Abel, a charming young artist, offered herself for this delicate experiment with as much charity as disinterestedness. On being put to sleep the subject's hand was placed in the hand of the afflicted woman. In a few moments the subject underwent an indescribable transformation. She was seized with agonizing convulsions. The patient, however, grasped the hand of the doctor, declaring with emotion that she was "liberated."

Malady Is Transferred.

On the order of M. Mangin, the latter uttered a stream of words touching the church, words which for seven years she had refused to utter under all kinds of compulsion. In the meanwhile, the young artist threw herself on the floor and attempted to beat her head against the wall, crying out in the same manner in which the patient was wont to do. The latter, passing from words to acts, touched a holy medal, handled a crucifix and made a short prayer, all this quietly and without any hesitation, while the subject moaned and threw herself about more and more.

Being assured of the complete "liberation" of the former sufferer, M. Mangin let the subject sleep while he made suggestions of a soothing nature to her. Then he awakened her. Both women were in a perfectly tranquil state. Since this time the young wife goes every day to church. She had a long conversation with a friend of her writer who says that not a trace of her former malady was visible. It is two weeks since the cure was wrought and it has been perfectly maintained. As for Mme. Abel, she is happier and healthier than ever.

M. Mangin does not pretend to know by what force he has accomplished this marvelous cure. He does not attempt to interpret the facts, he only inquires into them carefully and impartially, which is a great deal.

HEN HELPS LIQUOR SEARCH

Scratched Up a Bottle of Whisky at Bangor, Me., While Deputies Looked on.

Bangor, Me.—Other towns have hens that lay big eggs, but Bangor has a few biddies that, it would seem, lay quart bottles of whisky.

Sheriff Fernandez and his deputies are trying to find out who owns these remarkable hens, but thus far all they know is that the hen has its habitat in a yard in Pine street. Deputies King and Noddin went up there browsing around for the staff and stood admiring the handsome biddies scratching in the straw of their inclosure.

There seemed to be an unusually liberal supply of straw. Rum hounds notice these little things. One hen was particularly active and energetic in her scratching, and presently she uncovered, right where one would look for eggs, a quart bottle of whisky worth in these dusty days at least \$10. Then the deputies took a turn at scratching in the straw and uncovered 24 more bottles. They are whisking a new tune around the county jail now. They call it "Whisky in the Straw."

INSIST MAN IS DEAD

Government Sends Four Official Death Notices.

McGuire, Much Alive, Wonders About His Invalidation Home by Army.

Wilmington, Del.—Alfred McGuire of 801 West Ninth street, is beginning to wonder whether the government is "spoofing" him or whether they have a grudge against him. Since he was invalidated home on the discharged list last January, having served with the Three Hundred Twelfth Infantry, Seventy-eighth division, his family has been notified four times that he was dead—either killed in battle, died from wounds, or deceased as the result of diseases or accident.

"Well, I see I am dead again," is McGuire's way of passing off the matter when he beholds a letter addressed to his mother bearing the frank of the war department. The fourth notification of his death came the other day, but as McGuire, and Mark Twain before him, said: "The report of my death is greatly exaggerated."

Each letter that came has been answered either by McGuire himself or his mother. Notification has been sent to the authorities that McGuire is living, but they still insist on killing him off with clock-like regularity. The notices of his demise are also liable to contain the information that he was a cook, a wagon driver, a sergeant of artillery or any other such rank, while McGuire plaintively states that a man has to be killed before his rank is raised apparently, as he was "nothing but a buck private."

McGuire fought during the St. Mihiel drive and was hit by a piece of shrapnel and was invalidated home. After recuperating from his wound, which was not severe, he was discharged and began working for the Harlan shipbuilding plant.

In addition to telegrams, a letter was received from the chaplain of the regiment telling Mrs. McGuire of the heartrending circumstances of his death, full details and a complete description of his surroundings, grave, etc., accompanying the letter. The chaplain was from Germantown, Pa., and Mrs. McGuire wrote a letter to him, thanking him for his sympathy, but saying she was glad it was misplaced, as her son was not dead, but very much alive.

Captures Shark With His Handkerchief

Saugus, Mass.—John Hobbs, nineteen, captured a mackerel shark 3 feet 9 inches long by tying a handkerchief about its tail.

Hobbs' sister was on her way home from a grocery store when she heard a spashing in the water on the edge of Riverside cemetery. Investigating, she found the shark trying to get into the river. It had become stranded when the tide turned. She called her brother, who wound his handkerchief around the slim tail of the shark, dragging it ashore.

MAY BE A BIRD PARADISE

New Use for Island of Heligoland Suggested to Secretary Lansing.

London.—On the question of making Heligoland a bird paradise, L. Gardiner, secretary of the Royal Society for the protection of birds says:

"The bird lovers' scheme for Heligoland was that the island should be an internal observation station and a bird's sanctuary. There was no suggestion whatever in this connection that it should be restored to Germany. A resolution to this effect was carried at the annual meeting of the Royal Society for the protection of birds and was forwarded to the British peace delegation."

Dr. W. J. Hornaday, of New York, a leader of the wild life protection movement in the states, cordially seconded the appeal and wrote Mr. Lansing urging that if Heligoland could not be given back to England it should be neutralized as a naval base and placed upon the map as an internal reservation for the protection of birds. The unique value of the rock for this purpose, situated as it is in mid-stream of migration, is well known to ornithologists and has been abundantly proved by the work of Glatke.

USE MEXICAN ARMY SHELLS

Bandits Reported to Have Used Ammunition Made at Federal Arsenal.

Mexico City.—Government authorities have discovered that, in a recent brush with bandits at the Desert of the Lions, near this city, the opponents of the government troops used ammunition manufactured at the federal arsenal. The military authorities have issued strict orders that the sale of ammunition by government troops shall be prevented at all costs. A large number of cartridges is said to have been discovered at the thieves' market, where dealers had purchased them from soldiers with the purpose of selling them at great profit to agents of Felix Diaz and other revolutionary leaders.

SCOUT PLANES TO PATROL THE AIR

Treasury Department Has Plan to Defeat Activities of Modern Smugglers.

CUSTOMS REVENUE MENACED

Rum-Running and Smuggling on Large Scale by Airplane and Submarine Looked for in Near Future by Revenue Chief.

Washington.—Smuggling and rum-running on a large scale by airplane and submarine is looked for in the very near future by Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of internal revenue, and by other government officials unless preparations are made in advance to defeat the twentieth century smugglers.

The attention of the treasury department was particularly directed to this new danger of employing modern methods in smuggling by the accidental capture of an airplane that came across the Canadian border into northern New York with several cases of contraband liquor. It was entirely owing to an accident, however, that this capture was made, and the officials of the government have no doubt that large quantities of contraband liquor have reached this country already over the same air route.

Planes to Patrol Air. There is reason to believe that some venturesome pioneers of this new mode of smuggling through the air have already landed several thousands of dollars' worth of semiprecious stones from the topaz mines in Mexico, somewhere in the interior of the United States.

At any rate, the menace to the national revenues has become so immediate that Secretary Glass has decided that he will ask congress for transfer of 600 airplanes and hydro-airplanes from the army and navy to his department and funds enough to create an effective air patrol.

To Bilk Customs Revenue. Later on he will ask also for the transfer from the navy of a large fleet of Eagles which were specially designed for chasing submarines, in order to protect the seacoasts and estuaries from the danger of smuggling by submarines.

Equipped with these two modern craft for navigating the sea and air, the secretary of the treasury believes that he will be able to interrupt any illicit commerce designed to defeat the national prohibition laws or to bilk the government out of customs revenues.

MULES KEEP THEIR JOBS

They Will Still Kick in Army Despite the Increased Use of Motor Trucks.

Washington.—The chief of the motor transport corps has been authorized by the war department to equip fully the first seven divisions of the regular army with motor transportation. Motor vehicle equipment will be issued in quantities limited to the mounts necessary, not to exceed that prescribed in tables of organization for 1918. The limitations mentioned are a temporary expedient, pending application of a system which will provide for motor allowances based on the weight of rations, ammunition and other supplies.

Consequently the authorization to equip the seven divisions, now mere skeletons, does not mean that the traditional army mule is to be entirely eliminated or that there will be no further use for military and pack horses.

MARRIAGE HOPES LESS, SUES

New Jersey Girl Asks Damages for "Impairment of Beauty" in Auto Accident.

New York.—Because her chances of marriage were "lessened" by reason of impairment of her beauty, Miss Mollie Galanter of Bayonne, N. J., through her father, Israel Galanter, has sued in the supreme court for \$25,000 damages Andrew Pett, Patsy Piresi and the Commonwealth Casualty company of Philadelphia for injuries sustained when she was run down by the defendant's jitney.

Miss Galanter, the complaint says, was alighting from a jitney last January 9 at Seventeenth street and Avenue C, Bayonne, when, because of the carelessness of Pett, she was knocked down and internally injured and so marred in appearance that it will be hard for her to find a husband. Mr. Galanter also sued for \$5,000 for loss of his daughter's services.

GERMANS TRY TO EVADE TAX

Several Wealthy Families Have Arrived in North Slavia to Escape Levy.

Copenhagen.—Several wealthy Germans have arrived in North Slavia trying to escape the high taxes and confiscation of property in Germany. According to the peace treaty Denmark need not make these persons Danish subjects, and the German government has declared harsh measures are to be taken before the evacuation of North Slavia to hinder flight from the consequences of the war.

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The Dispatch

SEMI-WEEKLY
DISPATCH BUILDING
Columbus, : Miss.

New Closing Hours for Stores

Ninety-eight per cent of the Retail Merchants of Columbus have agreed to close their stores at 6 o'clock each day except Saturdays and 9 o'clock on Saturday nights except Christmas and Holidays. Drug stores are excepted from this agreement.

The following stores are co-operating in the movement and have signed the agreement:

Kaufman Bros.
Columbus Clothing Co.
Simon Leeb & Bros.
Harris Hardware Co.
Piggly Wiggly.
Jno. A. Linney.
W. C. Beal, Inc.
Ideal Millinery Store.
Mrs. S. W. Hodges.
Smith Gro. Co.
Phillips Bros. and Burris, Inc.
J. C. Hackleman & Son.
C. A. Donison.
Sperry Bros.
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Gunter Bros.
M. Runciman.
A. Feinstein.
M. Kropp.
R. E. Leitch.
A. J. Kohnbach.
L. L. Locke Bros.
S. G. Tennille.
Joe Cabin Grocery.
Joe Harrison.
Mrs. J. B. Carroll.
Barrow Cash Store.
J. H. Barrow.
Miss M. C. Land.
J. W. Shackleford.
L. W. Richards.

The public is asked to note these new hours and to shop early, thereby co-operating with both the merchant and clerks.

Retail Clerks Association of Columbus

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